



Vaccine Recommendations for Children with Sickle Cell Disease and Asplenia

Vaccines should be completed 14 days prior to splenectomy. If this is not possible, vaccines should be given 14 days post splenectomy. If compliance after discharge is not assured, then vaccines should be given before discharge from the hospital even if less than 14 days has elapsed since splenectomy.

Pneu C-20 - Pneumococcal vaccine					
2-6 months old		4 dose schedule: 2, 4, 6 months with a dose at 12-15 months. Minimum interval between doses is 8 weeks.			
7-12 months old		3 dose schedule: 2 doses at least 8 weeks apart, followed by a 3 rd dose at 12-15 months at least 8 weeks after 2 nd dose			
12-23 months old		2 doses at least 8 weeks apart			
Greater than 2 years old		1 dose			
Patients previously immunized with PCV 13 or PPV 23 give 1 dose (8 weeks since last PCV 13 and 1 year since PPV 23)					
#1		#2		#3	
Men ACWY - Neisseria meningitidis serogroups A, C, W, Y conjugated vaccine					
2-11 months old		3 doses given 8 weeks apart, with another dose given between 12-23 months old			
Greater than 12 months old		2 doses 8 weeks apart then Q 5 years			
#1	#2	#3	#4	Q5 Years	Q5 Years
Men B - Neisseria meningitidis serogroup B vaccine					
2-6 months old		3 doses at 2, 4, and 6 months, with a booster dose administered between 12-23 months and 2 months or more from preceding dose			
7-11 months old		2 doses greater than 2 months apart, with a booster dose administered between 12-23 months			
12-23 months old		2 doses at least 2 months apart, with a booster 12-23 months <u>after primary series</u>			
2-10 years old		2 doses at least 2 months apart			
11-17 years old		2 doses at least 1 month apart			
#1		#2		#3	



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HIB - Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine

2-6 months old	3 doses at 2, 4, 6 months, with a booster at 18 months old
7-11 months old	2 doses 2 months apart, and 1 booster dose given at least 2 months after previous dose and administered at or after 12 months old
12-14 months old	1 dose and 1 booster dose given at least 2 months after previous dose and administered at or after 12 months old
15 months and older	1 dose

All children over the age of 5 should receive a booster dose even if previously immunized.

#1	#2	#3	#4	#5 (after age 5)

Hep B - Hepatitis B vaccine **0, 1, 6 months**

Only required for patients with asplenia/hyposplenia who are exposed to multiple/chronic transfusions – otherwise, follow the provincial program guidance for this vaccine.

Routine titres are not required. If titres are measured inadvertently beyond the 6 months and are non-immune, give one dose and measure titre 1 month after the dose – if still non-immune, complete the series.

#1	#2	#3

Yearly Influenza and **Covid 19** immunizations are also recommended for all Sickle Cell Patients.

You can give **up to 4 vaccines** in the same visit, in separate sites.

Live vaccines are contraindicated in immunocompromised children. For the purposes of vaccination, sickle cell/asplenia patients without other underlying immunosuppressive conditions are not considered immunocompromised and can receive live vaccines.

Children should receive **all other vaccines as per provincial schedules**.

References used in the development of the above table include the Canadian Immunization guide (May 2014) and CanHaem Sickle Cell Disease Consensus Statement 2024.